

STIMULATION OF CARTILAGE GROWTH WITH
AGONISTS OF THE NON-PROTEOLYTICALLY ACTIVATED THROMBIN
RECEPTOR

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 Disclosed is a method of stimulating cartilage growth, repair or
regeneration at a site in a subject in need of such growth, repair or regeneration.
The method comprises the step of administering a therapeutically effective
amount of an agonist of the non-proteolytically activated thrombin receptor to the
site.

10 Also disclosed is a method of stimulating the proliferation and expansion
of chondrocytes *in vitro*. The method comprises culturing chondrocytes in the
presence of a stimulating amount of an NPAR agonist.

TOP SECRET